

City of Beverly, Massachusetts

PRESS RELEASE

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RE: CITY TO HOLD 2 PUBLIC FORUMS TO SHARE RESULTS OF COASTAL RESILIENCE PROJECTS – OBEAR PARK & BEVERLY PUMP STATION ON WATER STREET

BEVERLY, MA – The City of Beverly is currently undertaking two coastal resilience projects – the first is for a feasibility assessment and conceptual designs for green infrastructure at Obear Park at 145 Livingstone Avenue; the second is to complete a vulnerability assessment and feasibility study for the Beverly Pump Station at 135 Water Street.

These feasibility studies are the first step in establishing long-term protections for Obear Park and the pump station. The City held two initial public forums – one for each project – in April, to provide information about the sites and coastal impacts, and to hear from the community.

As the projects near completion, the City is holding two additional public forums – one for each project – in June. At these meetings, the City will share results of the studies, and again receive input from the community. The meetings are open to the general public, and community members or other interested parties are encouraged to attend both.

Additional information on both projects can be found on the <u>City's Climate Resilience and</u> Adaptation webpage.

Obear Park (145 Livingstone Avenue): The public forum for the Obear Park coastal resilience project is scheduled for <u>Thursday</u>, <u>June 10th</u>, <u>from 7:00-8:30 PM</u>. The forum will be virtual, and will take place through Zoom. Meeting access information can be found on the <u>City calendar</u>. During this forum, community members will learn about the ongoing impacts that climate change has had on the park, and hear about short- and long-term solutions that have been identified as most likely to protect the park from additional impacts of storms, sea level rise, and more. The meeting will include a question and answer period when participants can discuss the project with City staff.

The Pump Station at 135 Water Street: The public forum for the South Essex Sewerage District (SESD) pump station coastal resilience project is scheduled for Wednesday, June 9th, from 7:00-8:30 PM. The forum will be virtual, and will take place through Zoom. Meeting access information can be found on the City calendar. During this forum, community members will receive a recap on how the sewer pump station serves Beverly and the surrounding community and the increasing risk of coastal flooding in the area, and will learn about the results of the feasibility study and what options the City and SESD have to ensure the pump station is protected from long-term climate impacts. The meeting will include a question and answer period when participants can discuss the project with City staff and SESD staff.